

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A switch for a telecommunications network comprising:

at least one fabric for switching PVx connections;

at least one input mechanism for receiving PVx connections from the network;

a plurality of output mechanisms for sending PVx connections to the network, with at least one of the output mechanisms non-modifiable; and

a controller which modifies parameters for the connections of the fabric, the input mechanism, and the non-modifiable output mechanism by destroying them and then recreating the PVx connections of the non-modifiable output mechanism while the input mechanism, output mechanism, fabric and connections are active and operating.

2. A switch as described in Claim 1 wherein cells of a connection of the non-modifiable output mechanism that is modified are discarded after the connection is destroyed and until the connection is recreated.

3. A switch as described in Claim 2 wherein the input mechanism is an input netmod.

4. A switch as described in Claim 3 wherein the output mechanism is an output netmod.

5. A method for handling connections in a telecommunications network comprising the steps of:

sending a modify signal for modifying parameters regarding connections in the network to a switch having at least one fabric for switching PVx connections, at least one input mechanism for receiving PVx connections from the network, and a plurality of output mechanisms for sending PVx connections to the network, with at least one of the output mechanisms non-modifiable;

destroying the connections of the non-modifiable output mechanism; and

recreating the connections of the non-modifiable output mechanism subject to the modify parameters.

6. A method as described in Claim 5 wherein the recreating step includes the step of recreating the connections within 50 milliseconds.

7. A method as described in Claim 6 including the step of the discarding cells of the connections of the non-modifiable output mechanism after they have been destroyed and until they are recreated.

8. A switch for a telecommunications network comprising:

at least one fabric for switching SVx connections;

at least one input mechanism for receiving SVx connections from the network;

a plurality of output mechanisms for sending SVx connections to the network, with at least one of the output mechanisms non-modifiable; and

a controller which modifies parameters for the connections of the fabric, the input mechanism, and the non-modifiable output mechanism by destroying them and then recreating the SVx connections of the non-modifiable output mechanism while the input mechanism, output mechanism, fabric and connections are active and operating.

9. A method for handling connections in a telecommunications network comprising the steps of:

sending a modify signal for modifying parameters regarding connections in the network to a switch having at least one fabric for switching SVx connections, at least one input mechanism for receiving SVx connections from the network, and a plurality of output mechanisms for sending SVx connections to the network, with at least one of the output mechanisms non-modifiable;

destroying the connections of the non-modifiable output mechanism; and

recreating the connections of the non-modifiable output mechanism subject to the modify parameters.